



CAB54

## DIA SPOT REPORT

#73A

DATE: 25 Oct 73

TIME: 0845 EDT

SUBJECT: Soviet AN-22's Resume Airlift to Middle East

DIA REVIEWED 02-Dec-2009: NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION

REFERENCE: NSA Flight Reporting 25 October 1973 (SS)

DIA Analysis (SS)

1. (SS) The Soviets have resumed flight operations to the Middle East. After performing only two AN-12 flights on 24 October, twelve Soviet AN-22 heavy logistic transports are currently scheduled or en route to Cairo as of 0745 EDT 25 October. Five of these transports have landed in Cairo, one is currently en route. One aircraft reported an altitude of 7,300 meters (24,000 ft.). Eight of the aircraft are departing from Budapest, two from Lvov and 2 from unknown locations. The AN-22 has a pressurized cargo compartment and is capable of airlifting an estimated 40 to 60 tons of cargo or 175 men and their personal equipment or a mixture of both.

2. (SS) At present it is not known whether the current airlift is a resumption of the resupply operation or is for the purpose of transporting personnel to Egypt. If personnel are being transported, it is estimated that 2,100 troops could be airlifted by these aircraft. These twelve AN-22's represent the largest number to the Middle East in any one day.

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